GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2830
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2006
WTO
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Russia have signed a protocol on Moscow`s accession to the World Trade Organisation;

(b) if so, the details of the said protocol;

(c) whether any agreement has been reached between India and Russia to facilitate higher uptake of Indian tea and tobacco;

(d) if so, the time by which the said agreement will be implemented;

(e) the details of the tea and tobacco exported to Russia during the last three years and proposed for current year; and

(f) the extent to which the export target has been achieved during the first nine months of the current year and how much it is higher than the corresponding period of the previous year?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) India and Russia have signed a protocol on Russia`s accession to the World Trade Organization.

(b) The Agreement covers Russian Market Access offers in Goods and Services and an Understanding on Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The details of tea and tobacco exported to Russia during the last three years is as follows:

TOBACCO

Year Value in Rupees (crores)
2003-2004- 95.89
2004-2005 - 142.08
2005-2006 - 173.84

TEA

Year Value in Rupees (crores)
2003-2004 - 260.04
2004-2005 - 234.04
2005-2006 - 220.70

(Source: DGC&IS data)

(f)No export targets have been fixed for Tea and Tobacco in the protocol on Russia`s accession to the World Trade Organisation.